Atty

1

LeVan, Nancy J. (for Petitioner/Administrator Filipe Leal)

Amended Report and Final Account of administrator, Petition for Reimbursement to Administrator for costs advanced and Attorneys Compensation and for Final Distribution.

			Distribution.
DC	D: 8/26/200	<b>)</b> 5	FELIPE LEAL, Administrator with Will
			Annexed, is petitioner.
			Account period: 9/19/06 – 8/31/13
Со	nt. from		Accounting - \$145,000.00
	Aff.Sub.Wi	t.	Beginning POH- \$145,000.00
✓	Verified		Ending POH - \$145,000.00
✓	Inventory		Administrator - <b>waives</b>
✓	PTC		Administrator Costs - <b>\$11,730.38</b>
✓	Not.Cred.		(homeowners insurance, recorder,
	Notice of		publication, probate referee, bills of
✓	Hrg		the decedent.)
<b>√</b>	Aff.Mail	W/	Attorney - <b>waives</b>
	Aff.Pub.		Distribution musus and to intentate
	Sp.Ntc.		Distribution, pursuant to intestate succession [sole heir to the will
	Pers.Serv.		predeceased decedent without
	Conf.		issue] is to:
	Screen		
✓	Letters 9	/26/06	Helen Littlefield (daughter) - 25% interest in real property.
	Duties/Sup	р	20,0 111101031 1111041 property.
	Objection	s	Christina Avila (daughter) -
	Video		25% interest in real property.
	Receipt		Virginia Silva (daughter) -
_	CI Report 9202	<del>-  </del>	25% interest in real property.
<b>√</b>			
✓	Order		Rudy Magana (son) - 25% interest in real property.
	Aff. Posting	9	
	Status Rpt		
	UCCJEA		
	Citation		
✓	FTB Notice	·	

## NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:

- 1. The initial petition and the Petition for Final Distribution were both filed using a fee waiver. Filing fees are considered costs of administration and must be paid prior to distribution of any assts. **Therefore filing fees totaling \$755.00 are now due** (\$320.00 for the initial petition and \$435.00 for the Petition for Final Distribution).
- 2. Will devises the entire estate to decedent's son, Ruben Bernal. Ruben Bernal predeceased the Decedent. The Will does not state who would receive the property if Ruben predeceased the decedent therefore the estate passes through intestacy. The Petition states the decedent was survived by 4 children and that there were no issue of a predeceased child because Ruben Bernal was not survived by any issue. However, the former Petition indicated that there was a predeceased child, James Diaz, who was survived by issue. If there is issue of James Diaz then he would be entitled to an intestate share of this estate. Need clarification. Was James Diaz a child of the decedent? If so, what is his date of death? Was James Diaz survived by issue?

Reviewed by: KT

Reviewed on: 12/1/14

Updates:

Recommendation:

File 1 - Cano

# 2 Hanna S. Barsam (Estate)

Atty

Case No. 13CEPR00066

Knudson, David N. (for Petitioner/Executor Edwin S. Darden, Jr.)

(1) Second and Final Account and Report of Executor, (2) for Statutory and Extraordinary Compensation to Executor and Attorney, (3) for Final Distribution

DOD: 1/14/13			EDWIN S. DARDEN, JR., Executor, is	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
				petitioner.	
					1. It does not appear that the
				Account period: 8/1/13 – 10/5/14	estate is in a condition to close.
Co	nt. from			Accounting - \$518,668.32	The proposed distribution is vague and unclear. Distribution
	Aff.Sub.\	Wit.		Beginning POH - \$422,078.63	must provide specifically for
F	Verified			Ending POH - \$312,963.84	distribution of the property on
✓	Vermeu			φ / · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	hand. Will states "the rest and
✓	Inventor	У		Attorney - <b>\$8,165.62</b>	residue of my estate, I give to
	PTC			(remainder of the statutory. \$6,500.00	such charitable organizations in
✓				was allowed in the first account.)	Fresno County and in such
✓	Not.Cre	d.			amounts as are selected within
	Notice o	of		Attorney x/o - \$3,465.00	six months of the date of my
*	Hrg			(12.05 hours @ \$300 per hour for the sale of real property)	death by Edwin S. Darden Jr. If my estate shall otherwise be of a
1	Aff.Mail		W/	sale of real property)	size to require Federal Estate
Ě	Aff D I			Administrator - \$8,165.62	taxes to be due, it shall be the
	Aff.Pub.			(remainder of the statutory. \$6,500.00	responsibility of Edwin S. Darden,
	Sp.Ntc.			was allowed in the first account.)	Jr. to select beneficiary
	Pers.Ser	٧.			organizations which cause the
	Conf.			Administrator x/o - \$2,000.00	estate to be eligible for
	Screen	1		(per local rule for the sale of real	charitable donations or
✓	Letters	2/26	3/13	property and for the sale of personal	deductions at least sufficient to eliminate such tax. <b>Such gift or</b>
	Duties/S	qqu		property.)	gifts shall be distributed in full
	Objection			Costs - <b>\$460.50</b>	upon the close of the probate
	Video			(filing fee, certified copies)	<b>estate</b> or within one year of the
	Receipt			Closing reserve - \$3,000.00	date of my death if there is no
	CI Repo			Closing reserve - \$3,000.00	probate." (Emphasis added.)
	9202		Χ		
1	Order			Please see additional page	Please see additional page
	Aff. Post	ing			Reviewed by: KT
	Status R				Reviewed on: 12/2/14
	UCCJEA				Updates:
	Citation				Recommendation:
	FTB Notic	ce	Χ		File
			-		

# 2 Hanna S. Barsam (Estate)

Case No. 13CEPR00066

#### **Proposed Distribution:**

Petitioner plans to distribute the remaining funds of the estate as follows:

Petitioner has had continuing and fruitful discussions with Thom Halls, Chairman of the Photography Department of Fresno City College and the State Center Community College District Foundation, which receives and manages gifts on behalf of Fresno City College. He endowed the photography scholarship for \$35,000.00 and provided an additional \$1,500.00 to fund the initial scholarship. A third party provided a gift of \$20,000.00 which Petitioner intends to match, as permitted by the order entered on 9/12/13. Petitioner is working with the photography department at Fresno City College to fund some additional needs – including mating some additional gifts.

Petitioner anticipates that the current and pending projects for Fresno City College Photography Department will entail an additional expenditure of \$80,000 - \$90,000, including some additional matching fund gifts.

With the departure of Linda Cano, former executive director or the Fresno Art Museum, Petitioner's discussions with that organization have been put on hold. However, he has discussed exhibits at the Fresno Art Museum to be handled in cooperation with the Fresno City College Photography Department. Petitioner believes that the best way to honor the memory of Hanna S. Barsam is to distribute the remaining funds the Fresno Regional Foundation, much as was been done with the distribution for the American Institute of Architects, San Joaquin Valley Chapter, to be held and administered by the Foundation for eventual distributions to the State Center Community College District Foundation and/or Fresno City College to be used in the Fresno City College Photography Department, and to the Fresno Art Museum for specified exhibits and displays as agreed by Petitioner, the Fresno Art Center, and other organizations such as Fresno City College which may be involved in such exhibits and displays.

Petitioner anticipates that the Fresno Regional Foundation will establish an account, similar to a donor advised fund, to hold the estate assets and permit distribution for charitable purposes to those organizations specified above, as well as other charitable organizations designated by Petitioner as permissible participants of decedent's estate.

Declaration and Designation of Charitable Beneficiaries to Receive Gifts Under the Will filed by Edwin S. Darden, Jr. on 7/11/13. Declaration states the following are designated to receive the residue of the decedent's estate:

- 1. American Institute for Architects, San Joaquin Chapter, to be administered through the Fresno Regional Foundation, the sum of \$50,000.00 for programs furthering creative design, in accordance with a program established and drafted through the AIASJ and Fresno Regional Foundation.
- 2. The Fresno Camera Club, all of Decedent's camera equipment together with cash in the initial amount of \$2,000, contributed through another source.
- 3. Hinds Hospice the sum of \$50,000, as a pledge towards "naming rights" of the board room in the new Hinds Hospice headquarters building which shall be named in honor of Hanna S. Barsam, and in which some of his photography may be displayed.
- 4. State Center Community College District and/or State Center Community College Foundation, for the photography department at Fresno City College, in the initial sum of \$35,000.00 to establish an annual scholarship for a top student in photography and to establish gallery for display of photographic art, in honor of Hanna S. Barsam and other worthy photography students.
- 5. To the Fresno Art Center, funds to establish a significant photographic art show, featuring noted photographers, and to provide an endowment to fund a significant exhibit every other year of quality photographic art. Funds to be distributed: Up to \$200,000.00.
- 6. Any excess funds over and above those mentioned, may be distributed
  - a. To the named organizations to augment the gifts and grants previously provided and/or
  - b. To St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno
  - c. To California Armenian Home, Fresno.

The designator as executor reserves the right to modify the foregoing amounts if required to do so by the ultimate value of the estate, working in conjunction with the directors and officers of the named organizations.

Mr. Darden reserved the right to amend, adjust or alter the same in the event of changed circumstances of any of the named organizations or of the estate.

## **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS (cont.):**

2. Preliminary Distribution Order dated 9/12/13 provided for distribution to the Fresno Art Museum, in an initial amount up to \$50,000 to establish a significant photographic art show featuring noted photographers and to endow a significant exhibit every other year of quality photographic art, together with additional funds of up to \$150,000.00 when funds are available from the estate. Petitioner has not made any distributions to the Fresno Art Museum. Petition states Petitioner contemplated making distribution of the sum of \$50,000.00 to the Fresno Art Museum; however, due to a change in leadership within the organization, Petitioner has refrained from making such distribution at this time. Petitioner requests the authority to modify the schedule of distributions upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth. Should the Petitioner be allowed to modify the previous order and cancel the gift to the Fresno Art Museum?

# 2 Hanna S. Barsam (Estate)

#### Case No. 13CEPR00066

## **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS (cont.):**

- 3. Petitioner appears to be overreaching his authority as it relates to the charitable gifts. Will required Petitioner to select the charitable organizations within 6 months of the decedent's death. However, by the declaration filed on 7/11/13 (see declaration outlined above) Petitioner essentially extends the six month deadline indefinitely by adding the caveat that he reserves the right to amend, adjust or alter the beneficiary designations.
- 4. Disbursement schedule includes distribution of \$1,041.25 to scan, restore and print Hanna S. Barsam photographs salvaged and \$9,124.32 for framing for Hanna S. Barsam Photo Exhibit. The Will does not appear to give the petitioner authority to use estate funds for restoring prints and framing of the decedent's photographs but only to choose the charitable organizations to distribute decedent's estate.
- 5. Disbursement schedule includes a disbursement for \$2,800.00 for Hanna S. Barsam opening reception and awards banquet. Will does not appear to give the petitioner the authority to use estate funds for an awards banquet but only to choose the charitable organizations to distribute decedent's estate.
- 6. Petition does not contain a statement regarding Probate Code §216 and 9202(b) re: notice to the Director of Victims Compensation and Government Claims Board.
- 7. Petition does not contain a statement regarding notice to the Franchise Tax Board, as required by Probate Code 9202(c)(1).
- 8. Petition does not contain a statement regarding notice to the Department of Health Services. Probate Code 9202 (a).

Note to Attorney: In the future please have your order in no later than 10 days prior to the hearing.

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Atty Stroh, Herbert A; Drews, N. Ellen; of San Luis Obispo (for Petitioner Nicholas B. Drews)

(1) Report of Executor on Waiver of Account and Petition for its Settlement; (2) Petition for First and Final Distribution and for (3) Allowance of Attorney Fees for Ordinary and Extraordinary Services

DC	DOD: 10/21/2013		NICHOLAS B. DREWS, former stepson and		NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			Executor, is Petitioner.		
			Accounting is waived.		Need proposed order pursuant     to Local Rule 7.6.1, containing     a statement as to the balance
Co	nt. from		1 & A —	\$606,737.98	of the estate on hand,
	Aff.Sub.Wit.			\$620,314.54	specifically noting the amount
✓	Verified		(\$172,6	12.84 is cash)	of cash included in the balance, and the amount to
✓	Inventory		Executor —	waives	be distributed.
✓	PTC			\$15,175.23	<b>Note:</b> Consistent with the Court's
✓	Not.Cred.		(statutory)		recent practice, if Court determines an informal
✓	Notice of Hrg		Attorney X/O — (Per Exhibit B, Declaration in	\$5,572.00	accounting of the closing reserve
<b>√</b>	Aff.Mail	W/	Extraordinary Compensatio	n, for petition to	is warranted, Court will set a Status Hearing as follows:
	Aff.Pub.		determine entitlement (\$4,8	•	
	Sp.Ntc.		matters (\$748.00), for total of attorney rates from \$350.00		• Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 9:00
	Pers.Serv.		\$135.00/hour and paralega		a.m. in Dept. 303 for an informal accounting of the
	Conf.		than counsel;)	·	\$5,000.00 Closing Reserve.
	Screen				<b>,</b> ,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	Letters 0225	14		\$892.62	Pursuant Local Rule 7.5, if the
	Duties/Supp		(filing fees, certified copies,	Courtcall for 2	document noted above is filed 10
	Objections		appearances)		days prior to the date listed, the
	Video		Closing —	\$5,000.00	hearing will be taken off calendar and no appearance will be
	Receipt		S		required. <b>Filing of the informal</b>
	CI Report		Distribution pursuant to Dec		accounting of closing reserve will
✓	9202		to Order Determining Entitle Distribution and Allowing Ex		not generate a new hearing date.
	Order	Χ	Participate in Proceeding fil		
	Aff. Posting		to:		Reviewed by: LEG
	Status Rpt				<b>Reviewed on:</b> 12/1/14
	UCCJEA		NICHOLAS B. DREWS – entire		Updates:
	Citation		consisting of \$145,972.99 co		Recommendation:
✓	FTB Notice		automobiles, motorcycles,	' ' '	File 3 - Nelson
			and household furnishings, personal effects.	turniture, and	

# The Smothers Family Living Trust 02-11-91 (Trust) Case No. 14CEPR00498

Atty Roberts, Gregory J., of Barrus and Roberts (for Petitioner Floyd Wyatt, Jr., Successor Trustee)

Atty Brawley, Mason L.; of Murphy & Brawley, Merced (for Objector Dianne S. Collins, Successor Trustee)

Petition for Order Confirming Successor Trustees and Trust Assets Belonging to the

Marital Trust

Garnold DOD: 6/3/1991		FLOYD WYATT, JR., son and Trustee of the MARITAL TRUST, [sub-trust of] the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST, is	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/ COMMENTS:
Velma DOD: 11/27/2013		Petitioner states:	<u>Page 4B</u> is the Status Hearing Re
Cont. from 0723		Petitioner became Trustee of the MARITAL TRUST     pursuant to the deaths of the Settlors and Trustees of the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST established on	Settlement Agreement.
082514, 102114 Aff.Sub.Wit.		2/11/1991, <b>GARNOLD GARTH SMOTHERS</b> and <b>VELMA L. SMOTHERS</b> (Surviving Spouse); (copies of death	Continued from 10/21/2014.
√ Verified		certificates attached as Exhibit A; copy of Trust attached as Exhibit B1);	
Inventory PTC		On 2/11/1991, Settlors executed a Community     Property Agreement relative to ownership of their	
Not.Cred.		assets (copy attached as Exhibit B2);	
√ Notice of Hrg		Upon the death of the Deceased Spouse, the Trust was to be divided into sub-trusts: EXEMPTION TRUST      Trust to Trust Trust to Trus	
√ Aff.Mail	W/	and MARITAL TRUST; per Trust terms, the MARITAL TRUST is revocable by the Surviving Spouse [Velma];	
Aff.Pub.		The Surviving Spouse amended the MARITAL TRUST by a First Amendment executed on 7/7/1997, a Second	
Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv.		Amendment on 4/24/2001, a Fourth Amendment on	
Conf. Screen		3/5/2009, and a Final Amendment on 2/11/1991 (copies of all amendments attached as Exhibits B3 to B6);	
Letters		Petitioner believes the Fourth amendment was	
Duties/Supp	<b>)</b>	incorrectly designated as "Fourth" and that it is the Third Amendment to the <b>MARITAL TRUST</b> ; (also the	
√ Objections		Final Amendment bears the notarized signature of	
Video Receipt		Surviving Spouse only as Trustee and the omission of her signature as Trustor is believed to be clerical	
CI Report		error);	
9202 ./ Order			
<b>V</b>		~Please see additional page~	Bardana dhan 150
Aff. Posting Status Rpt	-		Reviewed by: LEG Reviewed on:
			11/26/14
UCCJEA			Updates:
Citation	<u> </u>		Recommendation: File 4A - Smothers
FTB Notice			File 4A - Smothers

**4A** 

# First Additional Page 4A, Smothers Family Living Trust Case No. 14CEPR00498

## Petitioner states, continued:

- The division of the Trust into the **EXEMPTION TRUST** and **MARITAL TRUST** was done on a pro-rata basis rather than an item-by-item basis;
- The Surviving Spouse executed 3 separate Declarations of Trust Split: first on 6/25/1991, second on 9/23/1996, the last on 8/19/1998; however, although all 3 Declarations refer to Schedule A and B, there is only one Schedule A and Schedule B in existence among the Settlors' estate planning binders (copies of the 3 Declarations and the only Schedule A and Schedule B attached as Exhibit C);
- Schedules A and B indicate that the Settlors' residence on Childs Ave in Merced, which was designated in the Trust documents as the Deceased Spouse's separate property, was allocated 10% to the MARITAL TRUST and 90% to the EXEMPTION TRUST; pursuant to Trust terms, there was no physical segregation or division required except as necessary to make distribution as provided in the Trust;
- Surviving Spouse recorded Affidavits as to the residence and Deed of Trust, but never recorded a
  designation of either asset as belonging to the MARITAL TRUST or to the EXEMPTION TRUST (copies of
  affidavits attached as Exhibit D);
- Surviving Spouse sold the residence on Childs Ave. in Merced and purchased a new residence on San Gabriel Ave. in Fresno, and then transferred title to the new residence to herself as successor sole Trustee of the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST (copy of transfer deed attached as Exhibit E);
- Surviving Spouse may have used some of the proceeds from the sale of the Childs residence to
  purchase the new San Gabriel residence; however, Petitioner has not been able to determine what
  funds were used to purchase the new residence;
- Surviving Spouse lived 22 years after the death of Deceased Spouse, and was to receive principal
  distribution for support, education, care, health and maintenance from both the MARITAL TRUST and the
  EXEMPTION TRUST, and she also had the right to withdraw the greater of \$5,000.00 or 5% of the principal
  of the EXEMPTION TRUST each calendar year;
- Petitioner believes the Surviving Spouse over the period of 22 years withdrew more than \$110,000.00 from the principal of the EXEMPTION TRUST such that at the time of her death, there were no longer any assets in the EXEMPTION TRUST;
- Upon the death of the Surviving Spouse, the last named Trustee of the EXEMPTION TRUST was DIANNE S.
   COLLINS, step-daughter of Velma (Surviving Spouse);
- On 1/30/2014, **DIANNE COLLINS** executed an Affidavit of Change of Trustee declaring she was the successor Trustee of the **SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST**, and on the same day she executed a Grant Deed transferring title to the entire new residence on San Gabriel to the **EXEMPTION TRUST** (copies attached as Exhibit F);
- Petitioner believes that he (FLOYD WYATT, JR.) is the Successor Trustee of SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST
  and that the new residence on San Gabriel was not and is not an asset of the EXEMPTION TRUST, and
  believes that the transfer of the new residence on San Gabriel was inappropriate in that, pursuant to the
  Division Schedules, the MARITAL TRUST owned at least 10% of the residence and that the new residence
  on San Gabriel was purchased in part with the proceeds of the sale of the old residence on Childs and
  with her own funds in Trust A to complete the purchase of the new residence on San Gabriel;
- Petitioner believes that the majority if not all of the new residence on San Gabriel and the Deed of Trust
  are subject to his control as Trustee of the MARITAL TRUST;
- DIANNE COLLINS claims that the new residence on San Gabriel is 100% owned by the EXEMPTION TRUST
  and that she is the Trustee of the EXEMPTION TRUST;

# Second Additional Page 4A, Smothers Family Living Trust Case No. 14CEPR00498

### Petitioner states, continued:

- Petitioner has attempted to resolve the differences between the MARITAL TRUST and the EXEMPTION
  TRUST and offered to split the proceeds for the sale of the new residence on San Gabriel 50% to the
  MARITAL TRUST and 50% to the EXEMPTION TRUST, but this offer was rejected by DIANNE COLLINS;
- As Petitioner and DIANNE COLLINS cannot agree on the division of ownership of the new residence on San Gabriel, Petitioner is asking the Court to determine whether the new residence on San Gabriel is an asset of the MARITAL TRUST or the EXEMPTION TRUST or both;

### Petitioner prays for an Order of the Court that:

- The MARITAL TRUST of the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST is valid, and that the EXEMPTION TRUST of SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST had no assets at the date of death of Surviving Spouse Velma L. Smothers on 11/27/2013;
- 2. FLOYD WYATT, JR. is confirmed as the Successor Trustee of the MARITAL TRUST of the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST; and
- All of the real property on San Gabriel, and the Deed of Trust, are assets subject to the management and control of FLOYD WYATT, JR. as successor Trustee of the MARITAL TRUST of the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST.

Objection to Petition for Order Confirming Successor Trustees and Trust Assets Belonging to the Marital Trust filed by DIANNE S. COLLINS, step-daughter of Velma Smothers, on 7/11/2014 states:

- GARNOLD GARTH SMOTHERS and VELMA L. SMOTHERS married late in life, both having children from previous relationships;
- Although Garnold and Velma created their SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST jointly, the Trust provides that
  upon the death of either of them, the Decedent's assets shall be allocated to the EXEMPTION TRUST,
  which is distributable to the Decedent's issue upon the death of the surviving spouse;
- This type of trust is common in second marriages where a couple wants the surviving spouse to be able
  to benefit from the trust assets during their remaining lifetime, but ensure that their assets ultimately pass
  to their children and issue;
- Garnold died ~4 months after creating the Trust, and the Trust was funded almost entirely with Garnold's separate property and all of those separate property assets, as well as all of his interest in he and Velma's community property, should have been allocated to an **EXEMPTION TRUST** an irrevocable subtrust which benefitted Velma for her lifetime, but which passed to Garnold's issue at Velma's death;
- Unfortunately, Velma failed to properly fund the EXEMPTION TRUST with Garnold's share of the Trust
  assets; Velma died on 11/27/2013, and Velma withdrew and spent all of the Trust assets except for a
  residence she purchased with EXEMPTION TRUST funds in 1998;
- Petitioner is now relying on Velmas' failure to fund the **EXEMPTION TRUST** to asset that Garnold's assets are assets of the **MARITAL TRUST**, and thus distributable to Petitioner and Velma's other children;
- This Court should deny Petitioner's requests and confirm that the [new residence on San Gabriel] is an
  asset of the EXEMPTION TRUST;

# Third Additional Page 4A, Smothers Family Living Trust Case No. 14CEPR00498

Objection to Petition for Order Confirming Successor Trustees and Trust Assets filed by DIANNE S. COLLINS on 7/11/2014, continued:

- The Trust provides that upon Garnold's death, his separate property and all of his interest in Velma and his community property should have been allocated to the EXEMPTION TRUST (see Exhibit B1 to the Petition);
- As the Surviving Spouse, Velma's separate property and her interest in her community property should have been allocated to the **MARITAL TRUST**:
- The **EXEMPTION TRUST** became irrevocable on Garnold's death, and the **EXEMPTION TRUST** was to be held for the benefit of Velma during her lifetime, but at Velma's death the assets in the **EXEMPTION TRUST** are distributable to Garnold's issue (see Exhibit B1 to the Petition);
- On the other hand, the MARITAL TRUST continued to be revocable during Velma's lifetime; the Trust
  provided initially that any assets remaining in the MARITAL TRUST at the death of the surviving spouse shall
  be distributed to Garnold's issue;
- Velma and Garnold expressly disinherited Velma's children (see Trust at Paragraph 8.14, page 17 of Exhibit B1 to the Petition); [Note: Velma's children are FLOYD WYATT, JR., LEONARD EUGENE WYATT, and DARRELL RAY WYATT];
- However, Velma executed a series of amendments to the MARITAL TRUST which later included her children as beneficiaries:
- Respondent believes that following Garnold's death, Velma never provided a Notification of Trustee to Garnold's heirs, which was required pursuant to Probate Code § 16061.7;
- Upon Velma's death, Respondent became Trustee of the EXEMPTION TRUST (both other named successor trustees ROBERT G. SMOTHERS and RONALD G. SMOTHERS, Garnold's sons, are deceased);
- The Bulk, if not all, of the Trust Assets were Garnold's Separate Property: The primary Trust assets at the time of Garnold's death were (1) the real property on Childs Ave. in Merced, and (2) a Promissory Note dated 1/2/1985 owed to Garnold by his son and daughter-in-law; the property on Childs Ave. in Merced was Garnold's separate property and he transferred it to his Trust on 2/11/1991 by Quitclaim Deed; Petitioner failed to provide the Court with a copy of the Quitclaim Deed which clearly indicates that the real property on Childs Ave. in Merced was Garnold's separate property when he transferred it to the Trust (copy of Quitclaim Deed attached as Exhibit A); the Promissory Note was also Garnold's separate property (copy of Promissory Note and Substitution of Trustee and Full Reconveyance stating the lender was "Garnold Smothers, a married man, as his separate property" attached as Exhibits B and C);
- Velma Failed to Properly Allocate the Trust Assets to the Sub-Trusts upon Garnold's Death: In accordance
  with the terms of the Trust, as Garnold's separate property, 100% of the Merced Property and 100% of the
  Promissory Note should have been allocated to the Exemption Trust; the allocations schedules of subtrusts submitted by Petitioner are inaccurate.
- The Funds used to Purchase the Fresno [San Gabriel] Property came from Assets Owned by the EXEMPTION TRUST: Velma sold the Merced Property for \$129,500.00, and failed to attach a copy of the 1998 Grant Deed for the Merced Property to the Petition; Velma used the proceeds from the sale to purchase real property on San Gabriel Ave in Fresno for \$85,000.00; it is unclear what Velma did with the remaining \$45,000.00 proceeds from the sale; Velma initially acquired title in her name and subsequently transferred title to the Trust.

# Fourth Additional Page 4A, Smothers Family Living Trust Case No. 14CEPR00498

Velma did not Exercise her Right of Withdrawal from the EXEMPTION TRUST: Velma had a right to withdraw principal (limited to \$5,000/5% annually) from the Exemption Trust; Petitioner alleges Velma exercised her withdrawal right, but offers no factual basis or support for that allegation; Respondent alleges that Velma did not exercise the withdrawal power, and because it was not cumulative, it lapsed annually according to the terms of the Trust.

## Respondent/Objector requests that the Court:

- 1. Deny Petitioner's request for an order that the property on San Gabriel in Fresno is an asset of the MARITAL TRUST under the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST;
- Confirm that the real property on San Gabriel in Fresno is an asset of the EXEMPTION TRUST under the SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST subject to the management and control of DIANNE S. COLLINS, Successor Trustee; and
- 3. Confirm that an property or funds traceable to the Promissory Note be confirmed as an asset of the **EXEMPTION TRUST** under the **SMOTHERS FAMILY LIVING TRUST**, subject to the management and control of **DIANNE S. COLLINS**. Successor Trustee.

# The Smothers Family Living Trust 02-11-91 (Trust) Case No. 14CEPR00498

Atty Roberts, Gregory J., of Barrus and Roberts (for Petitioner Floyd Wyatt, Jr., Successor Trustee)

Atty Brawley, Mason L.; of Murphy & Brawley, Merced (for Objector Dianne S. Collins, Successor Trustee)

Status Hearing Re: Settlement Agreement

Garnold DOD:	FLOYD WYATT, JR., son and Trustee of the	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
6/3/1991	MARITAL TRUST, [sub-trust of] the SMOTHERS	
Velma DOD:	FAMILY LIVING TRUST, filed a Petition for Order	<ol> <li>Need settlement</li> </ol>
11/27/2013	Confirming Successor Trustees and Trust Assets	agreement.
	Belonging to the Marital Trust on 6/4/2014.	
	DIANNES COLLINS atom develotes of Volgon	
Cont. from 102114	DIANNE S. COLLINS, step-daughter of Velma Smothers, filed an Objection to Petition for Order	
Aff.Sub.Wit.	Confirming Successor Trustees and Trust Assets	
Verified	Belonging to the Marital Trust on 7/11/2014.	
Inventory	1 .	
PTC	Minute Order dated 7/23/2014 from the hearing	
Not.Cred.	on the petition and objection states the Court sets the matter for Settlement Conference on	
Notice of	8/25/2014. Counsel is directed to submit their	
Hrg	settlement conference statements along with a	
Aff.Mail	courtesy copy for the Court one week before	
Aff.Pub.	the hearing.	
Sp.Ntc.	Minute Order dated 8/25/2014 from the	
Pers.Serv.	Settlement Conference states the parties come	
Conf.	to agreement. Mason Brawley will submit order.	
Screen	Matter set on 10/21/2014 for status hearing re:	
Letters	settlement agreement.	
Duties/Supp		
Objections	Minute Order dated 10/21/2014 shows	
Video	appearances by Attorneys Gregory Roberts and	
Receipt	Mason Brawley, and that the matter is	
CI Report	continued to 12/9/2014.	
9202	<u> </u>	
Order	  -	
Aff. Posting	  -	Reviewed by: LEG
Status Rpt	4	Reviewed on: 11/26/14
UCCJEA	1	Updates:
Citation	1	Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 4B – Smothers

**4B** 

Atty

Atty Kruthers, Heather H. (for Fresno County Public Guardian – Petitioner)
Atty Fanucchi, Edward L. (Court appointed for Proposed Conservatee)

Kelley, Darlene (Pro Per – Niece – Competing Petitioner)(Little Rock, AR)

Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator of the Person and Estate (Prob. C. 1820, 1821, 2680-2682)

Со	nt from 110514	ı
	Aff.Sub.Wit.	
~	Verified	
	Inventory	
	PTC	
	Not.Cred.	
~	Notice of	
	Hrg	
~	Aff.Mail	W
	Aff.Pub.	
	Sp.Ntc.	
<b>&gt;</b>	Pers.Serv.	W
	Conf.	
	Screen	
~	Letters	
~	Duties/Supp	
	Objections	
	Video	
	Receipt	
Ľ	CI Report	
	9202	
~	Order	
	A (	
	Aff. Posting	
	Status Rpt	
. 4	UCCJEA	
Ľ	Citation	
<u></u>	FTB Notice	

#### **TEMP EXPIRES 12-9-14**

**The FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC GUARDIAN** is Petitioner and requests appointment as Conservator of the Person with medical consent powers under Probate Code §2355.

Petitioner also requests authorization under Probate Code §2540 to retain a licensed real estate broker to sell the proposed Conservatee's real property and any personal property no longer needed by the Conservatee.

## Voting rights affected

## **Estimated Value of Estate:**

Personal property: \$239,126.75 Annual income: \$23,987.52 Real property: \$102,000.00

## A Capacity Declaration was filed 10-8-14.

Petitioner states the proposed Conservatee is a 79-year-old woman who appears to be suffering from dementia. She reportedly lives with different relatives at different times during the year. She has been in Fresno since June 2014. Based on a review of bank records and a discussion with bank staff, there is ample evidence to support that Ms. Brown has been and continues to be a victim of financial elder abuse by her nieces and nephews. Approximately \$17,000 was withdrawn from Ms. Brown's account in July 2014. A nephew reported that he knows nothing about these disbursements, but he has a handwritten will that would give him Ms. Brown's full estate.

Petitioner's Declaration filed 11-3-14 states Deputy Public Guardian Jennifer Segura discussed Petitioner's request to sell the Conservatee's former residence with the Conservatee on 10-1-14. The declaration states Ms. Brown did not disagree or object.

Court Investigator Julie Negrete filed a report on 10-28-14.

NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:

Note: Darlene Kelley, niece, of Little Rock, AR, filed a competing petition (Page B).

Court Investigator advised rights 10-17-14

Voting rights affected – need minute order.

 Petitioner did not request dementia medication or placement powers; however, the Capacity Declaration does address capacity to consent to dementia medication. The Court may require additional information or amendment and notice if dementia powers are to be requested based on the Capacity Declaration.

<u>Note</u>: If granted, the Court will set status hearings as follows:

- Wednesday, May 6, 2015 for filing the Inventory and Appraisal
- Wednesday, April 4, 2016 for filing the First Account

If the appropriate items are on file prior to the status hearing dates pursuant to Local Rules, the status hearings may be taken off calendar.

Reviewed by: skc

Reviewed on: 12-1-14 Updates:

Recommendation:

File 5A – Brown

**5A** 

Vera Brown (CONS/PE) 5B

Atty

Case No. 14CEPR00878

Kruthers, Heather H. (for Fresno County Public Guardian – Petitioner) Atty Fanucchi, Edward L. (Court appointed for Proposed Conservatee) Atty

Kelley, Darlene (Pro Per – Niece – Competing Petitioner)(Little Rock, AR)

Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator of the Person and Estate (Prob. C. 1820, 1821, 2680-2682)

PTC   Stimated Value of Estate:   Personal property: \$239,126.75   Notice of   Aff. Pub.   Aff. Pub.   Sp.Ntc.   Pers. Serv.   X   Conf.   Screen   Letters   X   Publies/Supp   Objections   Video   Receipt   CI Report   X   P202   Order   X   Aff. Posting   Status Rpt   UCCJEA   Citation   X   Aff. Posting   Status Rpt   UCCJEA   Citation   X   Ci			1820, 1821, 2680-2682)		
DARLENE KELLEY, Niece, is Petitioner and requests appointment as Conservator of the Person and Estate. (Bond is not addressed).  Verified Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of High Aff.Mail X Aff.Pub. Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv. X Conf. Screen Letters X Dutles/Supp Objections Video Receipt CI Report X 9202 Order X Aff. Posting Status Rpt Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCIEA Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCIEA Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCIEA Citation X Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCIEA Citation X Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCIEA Citation X  DARLENE KELLEY, Niece, is Petitioner and established in the stansport Ms. Brown to the hearing on 12-9-14.  1. Petitioner resides in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. In Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. In Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. In Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to reclocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petition as to whether Petition as to select the Saround for Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petition as to whether Petition as to whether Petition as to whether Petition as to such estates and the Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to reclocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to reclocate Ms. Brown to Arkansas. The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to the Medition			= = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = = =	NE	EDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
Aff. Sub. Wit.  Verified Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of Hrg Aff. Pub. Sp. Ntc. Pers. Serv. Conf. Screen Letters Udieo Receipt CI Report CI Report CI Report Aff. Posting Status Rpf UUCCJEA Aff. Posting Status Rpf UUCCJEA Citation  Aff. Posting Status Rpf UUCCJEA Citation  Aff. Posting Status Rpf UUCCJEA Voting rights affected Estatae. (Bond is not addressed). Voting rights affected Estatae. (Probate Code §2352(c) and (d) regarding and establishing the residence outside Californic and establishing the new state. Need Citation. Need proof of personal service of Citation with a copy of the Petition at least 15 day prior to the hearing on Proposed Conservatee Vera Brown pursuant to Probate Code §1824. Need Notice of Hearing. Need proof of service of Notice of Hearing with a copy of the Petition at least 15 days prior to the hearing pursuant to Probate Code §1822 on all relatives. Need bond of all least \$289,425.70 Pursuant to Probate Code §1822 on all relatives. Need bond of all least \$289,425.70 Pursuant to Probate Code §1822 on all relatives. Reviewed 2:-2-15 for filing the Inventory and Appraisal The Court my service of Notice of Hearing pursuant to Probate Code §1822 on all relatives. Reviewed by: skc Reviewed by: skc Reviewed by: skc			DARLENE KELLEY, Niece, is Petitioner	11- Ms.	5-14, the Public Guardian is to transport . Brown to the hearing on 12-9-14.
Inventory   PTC   Estimated Value of Estate:   Personal property: \$239,126.75   Annual income: \$23,987.52   Real property: \$102,000.00   Regarding petition to fix residence outside California and establishing a conservatorship or its equivalent in the new state.	<del>                                   </del>		Conservator of the Person and	1.	The Court may require clarification as to whether Petitioner plans to relocate Ms.
Notice of Hrg	Inventory				Probate Code §2352(c) and (d) regarding petition to fix residence outside California
Aff. Posting  Aff. Posting  Aff. Posting  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCC JEA  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCC JEA  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  Jeason for conservatorship.  Petitioner is blank at #5 as to the reason for conservatorship.  Conservate Vera Brown pursuant to Probate Code § 1824.  4. Need Notice of Hearing.  5. Need proof of service of Notice of Hearing with a copy of the petition at least 15 days prior to the hearing pursuant to Probate Code § 1822 on all relatives.  6. Need bond of at least \$289, 425.70 pursuant to Probate Code § 2320(c)(4) and Cal. Rule of Court 7.207.  Note: If granted, the Court will set status hearings as follows:  Tuesday 5-12-15 for filling the first account if the appropriate items are on file prior to the hearing date, the status hearings may be taken off calendar. Petitioner is encouraged to seek legal advice from a California attorney going forward.  Reviewed by: skc  Reviewed on: 12-1-14  Updates:  Recommendation:	Notice of	Х	Annual income: \$23,987.52		equivalent in the new state.  Need Citation.
Pers. Serv.   X   Conf.   Screen	Aff.Mail Aff.Pub.	X	reason for conservatorship.	3.	with a copy of the Petition at least 15 days prior to the hearing on Proposed Conservatee Vera Brown pursuant to
Screen   Letters   X   Y   Duties/Supp		Х		4.	•
Least 15 days prior to the hearing pursuant to Probate Code §1822 on all relatives.   Duties/Supp	Screen				Need proof of service of Notice of
Video Receipt  CI Report ×  9202  Order ×  Order   Aff. Posting  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCCJEA  CI Report ×  Video Receipt  And Cal. Rule of Court 7.207.  Note: If granted, the Court will set status hearings as follows:  • Tuesday 2-2-15 for filling of bond • Tuesday 5-12-15 for filling the Inventory and Appraisal • Tuesday 5-17-16 for filling the first account of the appropriate items are on file prior to the hearing date, the status hearings may be taken off calendar. Petitioner is encouraged to seek legal advice from a California attorney going forward.  Reviewed by: skc  Reviewed on: 12-1-14  UCCJEA  Citation ×  Recommendation:	✓ Duties/Supp	^			least 15 days prior to the hearing pursuant
P202   Nearings as follows:   Tuesday 2-2-15 for filing of bond   Tuesday 5-12-15 for filing the Inventory and Appraisal   Tuesday 5-17-16 for filing the first account   If the appropriate items are on file prior to the hearing date, the status hearings may be taken off calendar. Petitioner is encouraged to seek legal advice from a California attorney going forward.    Aff. Posting   Reviewed by: skc   Reviewed on: 12-1-14   UCCJEA   Updates:   Recommendation:	Video			6.	pursuant to Probate Code §2320(c)(4)
Order  Tuesday 2-2-15 for filing of bond Tuesday 5-12-15 for filing the Inventory and Appraisal Tuesday 5-17-16 for filing the first account If the appropriate items are on file prior to the hearing date, the status hearings may be taken off calendar. Petitioner is encouraged to seek legal advice from a California attorney going forward.  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCCJEA  Updates: Recommendation:	CI Report	Χ		No	te: If granted, the Court will set status
to seek legal advice from a California attorney going forward.  Reviewed by: skc  Reviewed on: 12-1-14  UCCJEA  Updates:  Recommendation:		X		• • If th	Tuesday 2-2-15 for filing of bond Tuesday 5-12-15 for filing the Inventory and Appraisal Tuesday 5-17-16 for filing the first account ne appropriate items are on file prior to the aring date, the status hearings may be
Status Rpt   Reviewed on: 12-1-14   UCCJEA   Updates:   Recommendation:	Aff Posting			to s	seek legal advice from a California orney going forward.
UCCJEA Updates: Citation X Recommendation:	<del>                                    </del>				
Citation X Recommendation:	<del></del>				
	<del>                                   </del>	Х			
FTB Notice   File 5B - Brown	<del>                                   </del>			File	5B - Brown

# 6 Virginia W. Smith Revocable Living Trust 3/14/05 Case No. 14CEPR00885

Frisella, Lisa J.; Allard, Mara C.; of Law Office of Lisa J. Frisella, San Diego (for Petitioners Steven Smith and Gillian Brock)

Petition to Determine Validity of Trust; for Order Confirming Trust Assets; to Determine to Whom Trust Property Shall Pass; and for Appointment of Successor Trustee; for Undue Influence; for Duress and Menace; for Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses of Administration; for Payment of Attorneys' Fees and Punitive Damages

DC	DOD: 7/29/2014						
Со	nt. from 11031	4					
	Aff.Sub.Wit.						
✓	Verified						
	Inventory						
	PTC						
	Not.Cred.						
✓	Notice of Hrg						
✓	Aff.Mail	W/O					
	Aff.Pub.						
	Sp.Ntc.						
	Pers.Serv.						
	Conf.						
	Screen						
	Letters						
	Duties/Supp						
	Objections						
	Video						
	Receipt						
	CI Report						
	9202						
	Order	X					
	Aff. Posting						
	Status Rpt						
	UCCJEA						
	Citation						
	FTB Notice						
	1						

Attv

**STEVEN SMITH**, son, and **GILLIAN BROCK**, daughter, are Petitioners.

#### Petitioners state:

- Petitioners are the Co-Trustees of the VIRGINIA W. SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST dated 3/14/2005 (copy attached as Exhibit 2); Petitioners do not live in the Fresno area; (Petitioner Steven Smith resides in Nevada, and Petitioner Gillian Brock resides in Georgia.)
- Petitioners bring this petition to determine the validity of the Trust, to confirm Trust assets, and determine to whom the property should pass;
- Petitioners request this Court confirm that the Trust is a valid Trust and the that property described in Schedule A of the Trust are assets subject to the Trust;
- Virginia Smith [Decedent] died after she was admitted to Clovis Community Regional Center on 7/5/2014 with bruising, malnutrition and an E Coli infection; the cause of death listed on her Certificate of Death is Alzheimer's Disease (copy attached as Exhibit 1);
- Hospital records indicate that Decedent was admitted on 7/5/2014 by her caregiver, JERRY PHARRIS, who reported he found her on the kitchen floor two days in a row;
  - ~Please see additional page~

# NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS: Notes:

- Paragraph 25 of the Petition states the
  Decedent's house on Farris Avenue in
  Fresno is not an asset of the VIRGINIA W.
  SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, and
  Schedule A of the Trust lists the Trust assets
  as personal property that is contained in
  the Decedent's house, not the house
  itself.
- Part 6 Paragraph D of the Trust names both Petitioners as Successor Trustees of the Trust following the death of Decedent, and Paragraph G waives bond for named trustees. Part 10 of the Trust distributes the Trust property to Petitioners in equal shares.
- Declaration of Co-Trustee Steve Smith in Support of Request to Withdraw Items 5, 6, 7, and 9 in the Prayer for Relief of Pending Petition filed on 11/26/2014, and the Declaration of Co-Trustee Gillian Brock in Support of Request to Withdraw Items 5, 6, 7, and 9 in the Prayer for Relief of Pending Petition filed on 11/26/2014 appear to omit from their request "Item 8" seeking a Status Quo order, preventing disposal or distribution of VIRGINIA W. SMITH **REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST** assets until the issues raised in this Petition have been addressed. However, since the request to withdraw items does not request that Item 8 be withdrawn, the Court should consider the Status Quo order as still encompassed within the Petitioners' request.

~rieuse see uuulilollul puge~
Reviewed by: LEG
<b>Reviewed on:</b> 11/26/14
Updates:
Recommendation:
File 6 – Smith

## First Additional Page 6, Virginia W. Smith Revocable Living Trust 3/14/05 Case No.14CEPR00885

## Petitioners state, continued:

- Jerry Pharris reported that Virginia had not been eating for 5 years but only drank "Ensure" and she had
  not been taking her medication for 2 months; he reported he administered anti-diarrhea pills to her so
  "He didn't have to clean her often;"
- On 7/10/2014, Decedent was discharged from the hospital tolerating food and feeling better to Willow Creek Care Facility, where she reported to staff that she was sexually abused by Jerry Pharris; Willow Creek staff contacted Petitioner Steven Smith to inform him of the abuse allegations;
- Petitioner Steven Smith came to Fresno and contacted police; an abuse investigation was opened by Fresno Police on 7/19/2015;
- On 7/19/2014, the Fresno Police contacted Jerry Pharris at Decedent's home, and Pharris presented a
  document entitled Last Will and Testament of Virginia W. Smith dated 1/10/2012, stating therein that her
  entire estate is devised to Jerry Pharris (copy of Will attached as Exhibit 3);
- Operating with the representation that he had exclusive authority as executor of the estate, Pharris denied entrance to the home to Petitioner Steven Smith;
- Bank records show that on 8/5/2014, Pharris made 3 separate withdrawals of \$500.00 from Decedent's bank account;
- Bank records show that Pharris withdrew funds from social security and annuity deposits to Decedent's checking account made after her death;
- Petitioners believe Jerry Pharris made acquaintance with Decedent in 2004 through a senior center; he
  began mowing her lawn and doing repairs around her house; Jerry Pharris moved into the detached inlaw unit behind Decedent's house in 2009, after the former tenant vacated due to her belief that Jerry
  Pharris broke into the unit, and after Jerry Pharris' harassment of her; Pharris then lived rent-free in the
  unit, which previously rented for \$550.00 per month;
- Pharris arranged to have all phone calls screened on speaker so he could participate in calls Decedent
  had with her children; Pharris took over financial control of Decedent's bank accounts and discouraged
  her from having contact with her family and intimidated her friends and neighbors;
- Personal property assets listed on Schedule A of the Trust are believed to be in Decedent's residence or a storage facility, and include valuable dolls and jewelry with an estimated value of \$30,000.00 to \$40,000.00;
- Petitioners allege the Will dated 1/10/2012 attached as Exhibit B is not and never was Decedent's Will
  and was made at the time of its alleged execution as a result of undue influence; the Will is the product
  of fraud, menace and/or duress, and Petitioners believe Pharris deprived Decedent of nourishment and
  care, isolated and intimidated her and those around her for the purpose of gaining control of her assets
  and her residence;
- Petitioners allege pursuant to Probate Code § 21380(a)(3) that any donative transfer to Jerry Pharris is presumed to be the product of fraud or undue influence as the instrument was executed during the period Jerry Pharris provided care custodian services to Decedent;
- Petitioners allege the Will dated 1/10/2012 is the product of fraud, menace and/or duress and believe that Pharris deprived Decedent of nourishment and care, isolated and intimidated her and those around her for the purpose of gaining control of her assets and her residence;
- Pharris lived with Decedent for nearly 7 years prior to Decedent's death and occupied a position of trust and confidence; during that time, Pharris took over her financial affairs and actively discouraged her from communicating with family and friends;

# Second Additional Page 6, Virginia W. Smith Revocable Living Trust Case No.14CEPR00885

### Petitioners state, continued:

- During the time of his relationship with Decedent, Pharris was able to exert control and influence over the
  mind and actions of Decedent to such a point that Decedent was no longer capable of exercising her
  own conviction or desire with regard to her actions or thoughts, but rather, because of the pressure
  brought on her by Pharris;
- Due to the progression of her Alzheimer's Disease, Decedent was not of sound mind and lacked capacity to make the Will on 1/10/2012, and at the time the Will was executed Decedent was aged and infirm and suffering from memory problems;
- As a result of Decedent's physical and mental infirmities, Decedent was easily influenced and controlled by Pharris;
- Petitioners and Decedent enjoyed a close relationship until Jerry Pharris entered their mother's life;
- Before Jerry Pharris came in to Decedent's life, Petitioner Steve Smith assisted his mother with her financial affairs and in fact tried to convince her to move close to his home in Nevada when she turned 90;
- Due to Pharris' influence, Decedent declined her son's urgings to move;
- Pharris insisted that Decedent not use the computer, and controlled all of her access to the telephone;
- Attempts made by Petitioner Steven Smith to contact Decedent by telephone became futile and he
  was left to resort to police welfare checks to check in on his mother in 2013 and 2014;
- Petitioners request distribution of Trust assets and an order allowing Petitioners entrance to their mother's home and storage facility for purposes of marshalling the Trust assets until the issues raised in this petition have been addressed.

## Petitioners request an Order as follows:

- 1. The VIRGINIA W. SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST dated 3/14/2005 is valid;
- 2. Personal property described in Schedule A of the Trust are assets of the Trust subject to management and control of the Successor Co-Trustees;
- 3. Steven Smith and Gillian Brock are appointed Successor Co-Trustees of the **VIRGINIA W. SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST** and will serve without bond;
- 4. The beneficiaries entitled to distribution of the **VIRGINIA W. SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST** are Steven Smith and Gillian Brock;
- 5. For a *Status* Quo order, preventing disposal or distribution of **VIRGINIA W. SMITH REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST** assets until the issues raised in this Petition have been addressed; and
- 6. For all other orders the Court deems proper.

## NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS, continued:

1. Need proposed order pursuant to Local Rule 7.1 which provides a proposed order shall be submitted with all pleadings that request relief.

Atty Wilson, Glenn R. (for Alma Figueroa – Paternal Grandmother – Petitioner)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 1510)

			TEMP DENIED 10-15-14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
			<b>ALMA FIGUEROA</b> , paternal grandmother, is Petitioner.	If this petition goes forward, the following issues exist:	
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Father: <b>CHRISTOPHER CHAVIRA</b> - Personally served 10-9-14	Need Investigation Report     Need State Code \$1513	
>	Verified		Mother: VICTORIA BARAJAS	pursuant to Probate Code §1513. (The Court investigation was not	
	Inventory		- Personally served 10-9-14	completed because petitioner stated she did not wish to pursue	
	PTC		- Present at hearing 10-15-14	guardianship.)	
	Not.Cred.			goara.a.a.p.,	
<b>&gt;</b>	Notice of Hrg		Paternal grandfather: Michael Chavira	2. Need notice pursuant to Probate Code §1511 to paternal	
	Aff.Mail	Х	Maternal grandfather: Unknown	grandfather and maternal	
	Aff.Pub.		Maternal grandmother: Angelica Villerreal - Personally served 10-9-14	grandfather or consent or	
	Sp.Ntc.		Villettedi - i eisoridily served 10-9-14	declaration of due diligence.	
~	Pers.Serv.		Petitioner states the children were	3. Need order.	
~	Conf.		residing with their mother until 9-22-14	3. Need order.	
	Screen		when they were dropped off at		
~	Letters		Petitioner's residence by the father.		
	Duties/Supp		Petitioner states the mother is being		
	Objections		evicted and the father is currently		
	Video		homeless and both parents suffer from		
	Receipt		severe drug addictions.		
	CI Report		Court Investigator Jennifer Young filed		
	9202		a report on 11-26-14.		
	Order	Х			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: skc	
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 12-1-14	
<b>&gt;</b>	UCCJEA			Updates:	
	Citation			Recommendation:	
	FTB Notice			File 7 - Chavira	

Magness, Marcus D. (for CynDee A. Jordan – Petitioner)

Petition to Determine Succession to Real Property (Prob. C. 13151)

DC	D: 05/18/2014		CYNDEE A. JORDAN, as Trustee of the Brock	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
			Living Trust, is petitioner.		
			40 days since DOD	Minute Order of 11/18/2014: Mr. Janisse filed a declaration and supplemental report this morning.	
Co	nt. from 111814	1	No other proceedings		
	Aff.Sub.Wit.			The Inventory and Appraisal does not	
✓	Verified		I&A - <b>\$55,355.71</b>	list real property it lists a promissory	
✓	Inventory		Will dated 11/10/2003 devises the residue of	note which is personal property. A petition requesting an order	
	PTC		the estate shall pass to the Trustee of the Trust designated as the Brock Living Trust.	concerning personal property only is	
	Not.Cred.		Trost designated as the block living trost.	not permitted under Probate Code	
✓	Notice of		Petitioner requests Court determination that	§13151.	
	Hrg		decedent's 49.11% interest in Promissory	<ul> <li>The Supplemental to Petition to</li> </ul>	
✓	Aff.Mail	w/	Note dated December 22, 1997 pass to CynDee A. Jordan, as Trustee of the Brock	Determine Succession to Real	
	Aff.Pub.		Living Trust.	property filed 11/18/2014 admits	
	Sp.Ntc.		1711 19 11031.	that the promissory note is	
	Pers.Serv.		Supplemental to Petition to Determine	personal property. Therefore this	
	Conf.		Succession to Real Property filed	procedure cannot be used	
	Screen		11/18/2014 states the Inventory and	under Probate Code §13151.	
	Letters		Appraisal lists a promissory notes (which is personal property). However, the note is	Where only personal property is	
	Duties/Supp		secured by a certain Deed of Trust dated	involved the Affidavit procedure	
	Objections		12/22/1997, recorded in the Official Records	under Probate Code §13100 is	
	Video		of the County of Madera on 12/24/1997 as	the appropriate summary	
	Receipt		Document No. 9734162, as assigned	procedure.	
	CI Report		pursuant to that certain Corporation		
	9202		Agreement of Deed of Trust dated		
✓	Order		01/09/1998, recorded in the Official Records in the County of Madera on 05/21/1998, as		
	Aff. Posting		Document No. 9814033 (the "Deed of	Reviewed by: LV	
	Status Rpt		Trust''). The Deed of Trust is listed on the Inventory and Appraisal. A deed of trust is a	<b>Reviewed on:</b> 12/03/2014	
	UCCJEA		security interest in real property wherein in	Updates:	
	Citation		legal title in real property is transferred to a	Recommendation:	
	FTB Notice		trustee, which holds it as security for a loan	File 8 - Brock	
			between a borrower and a lender. Hence,		
			the Petition seeks on order concerning real		
			property and personal property and it		
<u>L</u>			appropriate under Probate Code § 13151.		
				0	

Atty

Pacella, Louis (for Shaun Kelly – Beneficiary – Petitioner)

Verified Petition for Order Concerning the Internal Affairs of Trust and Action for Breach of Trust [§§17200(b)(1)-(7), (8), (12), 17206; 16420(a)(1), (3), and (9)]

Sta	nley Vick	SHAUN KELLY, Grandson and Beneficiary, is	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:	
DOD: 10/15/2007		Petitioner.		
Coeta Vick			SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES	
DOD: 10/2013		Petitioner states Stanley and Coeta Vick, husband and wife, created the Vick Family Trust		
-	ne Kelly	of 1997 (the Vick RLT) and transferred ownership		
	D: Not provided	of their assets, including certain property on Polk		
F		in Caruthers, to the trust. Pursuant to the terms of		
		the trust, the couple agreed that all property		
	Aff.Sub.Wit.	transferred retained its character as either		
		community or separate property. Upon the		
>	Verified	death of the first settlor, the trust was to be		
	Inventory	divided into three subtrusts: The Survivor's Trust,		
	PTC	the Marital Trust, and the Family Trust. Upon the		
	Not.Cred.	death of the surviving settlor, the subtrusts were		
>	Notice of	to be combined, and with the exception of minor specific gifts, divided equally between		
	Hrg	the settlors' two children, Diane Kelly and		
>	Aff.Mail w	Galene Pilcher. Should either Diane Kelly or		
	Aff.Pub.	Gaylene Pilcher predecease the surviving		
	Sp.Ntc.	settlor, their share would pass to their living issue.		
	Pers.Serv.	Petitioner is the only living issue of Diane Kelly,		
	Conf.	who predeceased the surviving settlor.		
	Screen	Petitioner states that upon the death of the first		
	Letters	settlor, the survivor had the ability to amend only		
	Duties/Supp	the Survivor's Trust. Settlor Stanley Vick died		
	Objections	10-15-07; however, no sub-trusts were created		
	<u> </u>	upon his death, and the surviving settlor treated		
	Video Receipt	all community assets as if they were her		
		separate property.		
	CI Report	On 12-31-12, Surviving Settlor Coeta Vick		
-	9202	created the Coeta Vick Grantor Trust, an		
	Order X	irrevocable trust to which she transferred title to	Paviawad by sko	
<b>-</b>	Aff. Posting	the Polk Property, in its entirety, from the Vick	Reviewed by: skc	
<b>-</b>	Status Rpt	RLT. Gaylene Pilcher is the sole beneficiary of the	Reviewed on: 12-2-14	
<u> </u>	UCCJEA	Coeta Trust.	Updates:	
<b>—</b>	Citation	Coeta Vick died in October 2013. On 12-19-13,	Recommendation:	
	FTB Notice	Gaylene Pilcher transferred title to the Polk	File 9 - Vick	
		Property from the Coeta Trust to herself as an		
		individual, and on 12-27-13, transferred all		
		interest in the Polk Property to the Gaylene		
		Pilcher Living Trust, where it remains today.		
		<u>SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES</u>		

# 9 Vick Family Trust of 1997 (TRUST)

#### Case No. 14CEPR00967

### Page 2

**Petitioner states** Respondent Gaylene Pilcher has ignored all requests made by Petitioner for his rightful one-half share of the Polk Property, attributable to the interest that should have been conveyed to the Family Trust sub-trust upon the death of Stanley Vick. Respondent has acknowledged Petitioner as a beneficiary of certain cash assets belonging to the Family Trust sub-trust; however, has failed to provide an adequate accounting of assets as the named successor trustee of the Vick RLT and accompanying sub-trusts.

Petitioner requests that this Court determine the validity of the Vick RLT, its various terms, provisions and subtrusts, grant him the relief sought in the form of determining his lawful ownership interest in the Polk Property, ordering Respondent to vest such interest in his individual name, and require Respondent to provide a proper accounting for the Vick RLT.

Petitioner states the Polk Property was community property of Stanley and Coeta Vick, who held title in joint tenancy prior to creation of the trust. The community property of Stanley Vick should have been placed in the Family Trust upon his death, which was irrevocable with the surviving spouse holding no power to amend or appoint the assets contained in it to a different beneficiary or class of beneficiaries. However, rather than funding the sub-trust, Coeta Vick retained all assets in the Vick RLT until 12-31-12, when she created the Coeta Trust, which named only Respondent as its sole beneficiary and primary trustee, and funded the Coeta Trust with the Polk Property.

Petitioner states this transfer was in violation of the terms of the Vick RLT and served as an impermissible disinheritance of Petitioner's share of that property. Although Petitioner does not presently allege that Coeta Vick lacked the requisite capacity to execute the Coeta Trust on its terms, or was otherwise unduly influenced to do so, he reserves the right to amend this petition to allege such facts upon their discovery. Petitioner is informed and believes Respondent was aware of his interest in the Polk Property pursuant to the Vick RLT and her actions to date have been calculated to wrongfully deny him of his rightful share.

Petitioner states that while Respondent denies Petitioner's right to an interest in the Polk Property, she has indeed acknowledged the validity of the same provisions. On 5-9-14, on behalf of Respondent, a Mr. Gregory A. Steen sent correspondence to Gina Mosley and Bridget Mosley along with checks for \$15,000, completing the specific gifts outlined in Sections 5 and 6 of the Ninth Article establishing the Family Trust subtrust. Similarly, on 7-14-14, Petitioner received a similar correspondentce from Mr. Steen along with a check for \$149,000. Mr. Steen, a non-lawyer, identifies himself as the "Administrator for Gaylene Pilcher, Successor Trustee" in his correspondence (Exhibit F).

In addition to the cash, Petitioner demands distribution of the interest in the Polk Property to which he is also entitled.

Petitioner states Respondent has not provided a sufficient accounting, despite multiple requests. He has been provided with only a single inadequate document prepared by Respondent (or on her behalf) that purportedly contains transactions from a Bank of America account. However, this document is insufficient to satisfy any accounting requirement and does not specifically identify any assets of the Vick RLT. Exhibit G.

Petitioner states in order to uphold and carry out the irrevocagble intentions of Stanley Vick, an order by this Court compelling the funding of his community property interest in the Polk Property to the Family Trust, retroactive to the date of his death is necessary.

#### **SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES**

# 9 Vick Family Trust of 1997 (TRUST)

Case No. 14CEPR00967

### Page 3

Petitioner requests the following:

- 1. An order confirming that the Vick RLT is a valid and existing trust;
- 2. An order confirming that the creation and funding of the Family Trust sub-trust pursuant to the terms of the Vick RLT was mandatory;
- 3. An order confirming that Stanley Vick's one-half community property interest became an asset of the Family Trust upon his death;
- 4. An order compelling the funding of the Family Trust with a one-half community property interest in the Polk Property, retroactive to the date of death of Stanley Vick;
- 5. An order confirming that Petitioner is a beneficiary of the Family Trust and therefore entitled to receive an equal share of Stanley Vick's one-half community property interest in the Polk Property pursuant to the terms of the Vick RLT; and
- 6. For such other and further relieve as the Court deems appropriate.

#### **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:**

- 1. Petitioner does not state the names and addresses of each person entitled to notice of this petition pursuant to Probate Code §§ 17201, 17203, including 17203(b).
- 2. Need order.
- 3. Petitioner states at Page 7 of the petition that he reserves the right to amend this petition to bring causes of action regarding capacity, undue influence, etc., in the creation of the 2012 Coeta Vick Grantor Trust. Please note that any future petition regarding the Coeta Trust would need to be brought as a <u>separate</u> action under appropriate authority and not as an amendment to this petition. Also, causes of actions such as undue influence and capacity issues may be required to be heard in the Civil Court, as opposed to this Probate Court, since those causes of action are not brought under the Probate Code.

Poochigian, Mark S (for Alesha J. Jensen – Petitioner – Daughter)

Petition for Letters of Administration; Authorization to Administer Under IAEA (Prob. C. 8002, 10450)

DOD: 06/18/2014		ALESHA J. JENSEN, daughter, is petitioner	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
		and requests appointment as Administrator without bond.	
Co	nt. from	All heirs nominate petitioner and waive bond.	Note: If the petition is granted status
	Aff.Sub.Wit.	Bond.	hearings will be set as follows:
1	Verified	Full IAEA – o.k.	
Ė	Inventory		• Tuesday, 04/07/2015 at 9:00a.m. in Dept. 303 for the filing
	PTC	Decedent died intestate	of the inventory and appraisal
	Not.Cred.	Residence: Parlier	and
<u> </u>	Notice of	Publication: The Business Journal	• Tuesday, 02/09/2016 at
Ĺ	Hrg	Estimated value of the Estate	9:00a.m. in Dept. 303 for the filing
✓	Aff.Mail w	Personal property - \$170,000.00	of the first account and final
✓	Aff.Pub.	Probate Referee: Rick Smith	distribution.
	Sp.Ntc.	Trobate Referee. Nex 3/11111	Pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 if the required
	Pers.Serv.		documents are filed 10 days prior to the
	Conf.		hearings on the matter the status hearing will come off calendar and no
	Screen	_	appearance will be required.
✓	Letters		
✓	Duties/Supp		
	Objections		
	Video		
	Receipt	_	
	CI Report 9202	_	
	Order	-	
	Aff. Posting	_	Reviewed by: LV
	Status Rpt	-	Reviewed by. LV  Reviewed on: 12/03/2014
	UCCJEA	1	Updates:
	Citation	1	Recommendation: Submitted
	FTB Notice		File 10 - Bergen

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# Atty Vallis, James H., sole practitioner of Kingsburg (for Petitioner Gary McNail)

# Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary (Prob. C. 8002, 10450)

DOD: 7/5/2014	GARY DANE MCNAIL, son and named Executor without bond, is Petitioner.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
		Item 8 of the Petition does not include the date of death of
Cont. from	Full IAEA – O.K.	the deceased spouse pursuant to Local Rule
Aff.Sub.Wit. S/P  ✓ Verified  Inventory  PTC  Not.Cred.  ✓ Notice of Hrg	Will Dated: 8/7/2001  Residence: Kingsburg  Publication: Kingsburg Recorder	7.1.1(D) which provides that if a beneficiary, heir, child, spouse or registered domestic partner in any action before the Probate Court is deceased, that person's date of death shall be included in the petition.
✓ Aff.Mail W/O ✓ Aff.Pub.	Estimated value of the Estate:  Real property - \$300,000.00	Note: If Petition is granted, Court
Sp.Ntc.		will set Status Hearings as
Pers.Serv. Conf. Screen Letters	Total - <b>\$300,000.00</b>	follows:  • Monday, May 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 303 for the filing of final inventory and
√ Duties/Supp	Probate Referee: Rick Smith	<ul> <li>appraisal; and</li> <li>Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 303 for the</li> </ul>
Objections   Video		filing of first account and/or
Receipt		petition for final distribution.
CI Report		Pursuant Local Rule 7.5, if the
9202 √ Order		documents noted above are filed 10 days prior to the dates listed, the hearings will be taken off calendar
Aff. Posting		Reviewed by: LEG
Status Rpt		Reviewed on: 12/2/14
UCCJEA Citation		Updates:  Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 11 - McNail

Flanigan, Philip M. (for Beverly T. Adams – Executor)

Status Hearing Re: Inventory and Appraisal and Filing of the First Account and/or Petition for Final Distribution

DOD: 11/18/2010	BEVERLY T. ADAMS, spouse, was appointed Executor	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	with full IAEA authority without bond on 06/25/2012.	
	Letters issued on 06/28/2012.	Minute Order of 11/14/2014: Ms. Guerrero makes a special appearance for Phillip Flanigan.
Cont. from 072613, 110813, 112414	Inventory and Appraisal was due 10/26/2012.	An updated status report is to be filed by 12/05/2014.
Aff.Sub.Wit.	Declaration of Danielle R. Guerrero and Status Report	-
Verified	filed 11/19/2014 states Beverly T. Adams needed to	
Inventory	be appointed as Personal Representative of her late	
PTC	husband's estate in order to file a wrongful death	Need Inventory and
Not.Cred.	lawsuit on his behalf stemming from the airplane	Appraisal and First Account
Notice of Hrg	crash in Florida on 11/17/2010. The lawsuit was filed in Florida Southern District Court on 05/14/2013, Case	or Petition for Final
Aff.Mail	No. 2:13-cv-14206. The original trial date for that	Distribution.
Aff.Pub.	matter was 08/15/2014. The trial was continued to	
Sp.Ntc.	11/17/2014, then again to 01/12/2015, and is now	
Pers.Serv.	scheduled for a two week trial beginning 05/18/2015.	
Conf.	Mediation was scheduled for 11/07/2014 but was later postponed to allow a motion to be heard prior	
Screen	to mediation. The next mediation date is	
Letters	unscheduled at this time but will be rescheduled for	
Duties/Supp	early 2015, as it must be completed by April 2015,	
Objections	prior to the trial. If the matter is not settled at	
Video	mediation, then the two week trial is set to begin May	
Receipt	18, 2015. An Inventory and Appraisal is not needed	
CI Report	at this time as there is currently no real or personal	
9202	property to be appraised. In the event that the	
Order	wrongful death matter is resolved in favor of the	
Aff. Posting	decedent, the Personal Representative will file an Inventory and Appraisal at that time, as the	Reviewed by: LV
Status Rpt	decedent had no other property subject to probate.	<b>Reviewed on:</b> 12/03/2014
UCCJEA	It is respectfully requests that this probate matter be	Updates:
Citation	continued six months pending the anticipated	Recommendation:
FTB Notice	resolution of the wrongful death litigation.	File 13 – Adams
	1 1 1 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	
		12

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Hemb, Richard E., of Hemb Law Office (for Michele R. Curley, Administrator)

# Status Hearing Re: Filing of the First Account and/or Petition for Final Distribution

DOD: 9/7/2012	MICHELE R. CURLEY, Daughter, was appointed	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/
	Administrator with Full IAEA with bond of \$30,000.00 on	COMMENTS:
	11/7/2012. Letters issued 1/22/2013.	Continued from
	D	<u>11/4/2014</u> . Minute
	<b>Proof of Bond filed 1/14/2014</b> shows bond of \$14,000.00	Order states Ms.
	was posted. Based on 1/22/2013 bond posted of	Litton [specially
	<b>\$30,000.00</b> , the total bond is currently <b>\$44,000.00</b> .	appearing for Mr.
	Final Inventory and Appraisal filed 10/15/2013 shows an	Hemb] represents
	estate value of \$110,367.38 consisting of personal property	to the Court that
Cont. from 011014,	and real property valued at \$60,000.00.	Mr. Hemb is in the
011714, 032114,	and real property valued at \$60,000.00.	process of
052314, 072214,	Status Conference Statement filed 10/30/2014 [for the	completing the
090214, 110414	previous status hearing on 11/4/2014] states:	accounting. The
Aff.Sub.Wit.	<ul> <li>The real property shown on the Inventory and</li> </ul>	Court confirms that
Verified	Appraisal filed on 10/15/2013 was taken over by	the Public
	vandals; real estate professionals indicated that sale	Administrator
Inventory	proceeds will not be sufficient to cover selling costs	remains until further
Bond	and encumbrances; the property was foreclosed upon	order of the Court.
Not.Cred.	and is no longer in the estate;	The following issue
Notice of Hrg	Bond was increased to \$44,000.00 to reflect the cash	remains:
Aff.Mail	assets in the estate;	1. Need first
Aff.Pub.	<ul> <li>At the status conference on 9/2/2014, the Court on its</li> </ul>	account and/or
Sp.Ntc.	own motion removed Michele R. Curley as personal	petition for final
Pers.Serv.	representative, directed legal counsel to advise the	distribution.
	surety company of the Court's action, and appointed	Note: Notice of
Conf. Screen	the Public Administrator as personal representative of	Note: Notice of Proposed Action
Letters	<ul><li>the estate;</li><li>Richard Hemb has by written letter sent by U.S. mail</li></ul>	filed by the Public
Duties/Supp	advised the surety company of the Court's decision	Administrator on
Objections	and advised Michele Curley of same;	11/13/2014 shows
Video	Michele Curley has recently cooperated with her legal	the Public
Receipt	counsel and has supplied him with her costs advanced	Administrator is in
CI Report	to the estate and provided copies of bank statements	the process of selling the estate
Order	effective October 2014 showing that \$42,984.67 is held and titled in the name of the estate;	real property.
Aff. Posting	<ul> <li>Additionally, she is holding \$6,500.00 from the sale of a</li> </ul>	Reviewed by: LEG
Status Rpt X	vehicle pending the Court's direction on how to	Reviewed by: 12/1/14
UCCJEA	handle these assets;	Updates:
Citation	In response to receipt of this information, a report and	Recommendation:
FTB Notice	account has been prepared and is currently under	File 14 – Martinez
	review by Ms. Curley;	
	It is hopeful that this document will be filed prior to the  Court be gring an 11/4/2014.	
	Court hearing on 11/4/2014.	

George W. Siek (Estate)
Koligian, Robert (for Charles Robert Siek – son/Executor)

Status Hearing Re: Filing of the Inventory and Appraisal

DC	D: 04/26/13		CHARLES ROBERT SIEK, son, was	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
			appointed as Executor with full IAEA	
			and without bond on 05/06/14. Letters	CONTINUED FROM 10/07/14
			Testamentary were issued on 05/21/14.	
	ont. from 100714	1	A	1. The Status Report is not verified.
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Minute Order from 05/06/14 set this	O Datition to Tarrein etc
-			matter for status regarding filing of the Inventory & Appraisal.	Petition to Terminate     Proceedings.
	<u> </u>	Χ	inveniory & Appraisal.	Froceedings.
	Inventory		Status Report by Attorney for Executor	
	PTC		filed 11/04/14 states: Decedent estate	
	Not.Cred.		plan consisted of a trust and a pour-	
✓	Notice of		over will. Charles Siek, son of decedent	
	Hrg		is both the named executor of the will	
✓	Aff.Mail	w/	and the successor trustee of the trust.	
	Aff.Pub.		He is also the sole beneficiary of the	
	Sp.Ntc.		trust. The only asset that of the estate	
	Pers.Serv.		that requires transfer to the trust is a	
	Conf.		Merrill Edge Account consisting of	
	Screen		approximately \$190,554.71. Merrill Edge has advised the Executor that he would	
-			only require Letters Testamentary and	
	Letters		since he was the sole distributee under	
	Duties/Supp		the trust, the Merrill Edge account	
	Objections		would be transferred directly to him	
	Video		and no additional action would need	
	Receipt		to be taken by any Court as far as	
	CI Report		Merrill Edge was concerned. In	
	9202		retrospect, a Heggstad Petition may	
	Order		have been more appropriate in this	
	Aff. Posting		matter, however as this probate	Reviewed by: JF
	Status Rpt		proceeding has already been	<b>Reviewed on:</b> 12/02/14
	UCCJEA		commenced, that is no longer an	Updates:
	Citation		option. Declarant states that he is performing work in this case on an	Recommendation:
	FTB Notice		hourly basis and will not be requesting	File 15 - Siek
			statutory probate fees. The transfer of	
			the Merrill Edge account to Charles	
			Siek, which has occurred, should be	
			confirmed.	
	<u> </u>			1.5

Teixeira, J. Stanley (for Conservator Keith D'Ambrosio)
Status Hearing Re: Determination and Proof of Bond

	KEIGTH D'AMBROSIO, Cousin, was	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	appointed Conservator of the <b>Person and</b>	The Court may require elevitication and
	Estate with a bond amount to be	The Court may require clarification and notice. See issues detailed on Page 2.
	determined on 7-30-14.	
Cont. from 093014,	Letters issued on 8-1-14.	Note re History: The Conservatee, a
111014		developmentally disabled adult, had recently moved to California from
Aff.Sub.Wit.	At the hearing on 7-30-14, the Court set	Oklahoma, where she had been
Verified	this status hearing re determination and	residing with Tom Steel. The original
Inventory	proof of bond.	petition stated that Mr. Steel had been acting as her "guardian," but without
PTC	Status Report filed 10-27-14 by Attorney	court appointment. When he died,
Not.Cred.	Teixeira (not verified) states on 10-24-14,	Donna was left alone in Oklahoma
Notice of	he received a copy of an Order	without family. The petition stated
Hrg	Appointing Successor Trustee from	Donna may be entitled to assets in Tom Steel's estate and may have
Aff.Mail	Attorney Steven P. Flowers of Tulsa, OK	claims that property in the estate was
Aff.Pub.	(attached). Pursuant to the order, Keith	misappropriated. Conservatorship is
Sp.Ntc.	D'Ambrosio has been appointed as Trustee of the Chester Farris Revocable	necessary in order to pursue any
Pers.Serv.	Trust. Mr. Flowers also informed that all	interest Donna may have in that estate for her. The attorney was in
Conf.	assets to which the Conservatee may be	communication with an attorney
Screen	entitled from the probate of Tom Steel will	handling that matter.
Letters	be distributed to the trustee of the	
Duties/Supp	Chester Farris Revocable Trust.	
Objections	Since all assets for the benefit of the	
Video	Conservatee will be in trust, it appears	
Receipt	that a conservatorship of the estate is not	
CI Report	needed at this time. Thus, Petitioner Keith	
9202	D'Ambrosio will withdraw his request for	
Order	appointment as Conservator of the Estate	
Aff. Posting	and no bond will be posted.	Reviewed by: skc
Status Rpt	Declaration of J. Stanley Teixeira filed	Reviewed on: 12-1-14
UCCJEA	11-18-14 provides additional information.	Updates:  Recommendation:
Citation	Please see NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS	File 16A - Farris
FTB Notice	and following pages.	rile IOA - FUIIIS

16A

Page 2 – NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS: The following issues remain noted for reference. Please also see Declaration of J. Stanley Teixeira filed 11-18-14, summarized on following page.

1. The status report states that because Mr. D'Ambrosio has been appointed as successor trustee of the Conservatee's father's trust (the Chester Farris Revocable Trust), of which the Conservatee is the sole beneficiary, conservatorship of the estate is now not needed because distribution of the Conservatee's share of Mr. Steel's estate will simply be distributed to him as trustee of the Chester Farris Revocable Trust.

However, rather than negate the need for conservatorship of the estate, the order attached, at #7, appears to specifically rely on the fact that Mr. D'Ambrosio has been appointed as conservator of Donna K. Farris' "person and property" in appointing him as successor trustee of the Chester Farris Revocable Trust.

<u>Need clarification</u>: Why will the Conservatee's share of Mr. Steel's estate be distributed to the trustee of the Chester Farris Revocable Trust? Do Mr. Steel's estate planning documents specify the Chester Farris Revocable Trust on her behalf? If not, then how can distribution be made to the Chester Farris Revocable Trust on her behalf?

Also, although the Conservatee is the sole beneficiary of the Chester Farris Revocable Trust, that trust itself is not a trust created for her benefit. How does the Chester Farris Revocable Trust provide for distribution to Donna Farris as the sole beneficiary? Is there a separate subtrust created for her benefit that the Chester Farris Revocable Trust will distribute to?

Basically, it appears this Conservatee will be the beneficiary of two separate anticipated distributions – one from Mr. Steel's estate, and one from her father's trust. It is unclear why her father's trust would receive a distribution from Mr. Steel's estate on her behalf, and it is also unclear how her father's trust will ultimately distribute to her. However, it appears substituted judgment may be necessary if her distributions are not going to be distributed to her conservatorship estate.

- 2. Also, the petition previously indicated that property in Mr. Steel's estate may have been misappropriated, and appointment as conservator of her estate was necessary to pursue her interest therein. The status report does not provide any update on that situation. The Court may require additional information or clarification why conservatorship of the estate is not now necessary to pursue assets misappropriated from Mr. Steel's estate on her behalf.
- 3. Conservatorship of the estate <u>was already granted</u> on 9-30-14; therefore, the petition cannot be withdrawn at this point. The Court may require a noticed petition to terminate, or service of this declaration on interested parties, including:
  - Conservatee Donna Farris
  - Richard Farris (her brother)

**SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES** 

#### Page 3

#### Declaration of J. Stanley Teixeira filed 11-18-14 states:

- Chester Farris executed a trust on 2-28-92, which was for the benefit of Chester Farris during his life and upon his death, was to continue for the benefit of Donna Kay Farris.
- Soon after execution of the trust, Chester Farris, who was the sole trustee, required a caregiver.
- The caregiver was GeorgeAnn Steel, who, at the time, was married to Tom Steel.
- GeorgeAnn Steel convinced Chester Farris to amend his trust so that she would serve as co-trustee with him and upon his death, as sole successor trustee.
- Chester Farris died 11-20-92, leaving GeorgeAnn Steel as sole trustee.
- Sometime thereafter, GeorgeAnn Steel and Tom Steel divorced. While going through the dissolution action, GeorgeAnn Steel resigned as trustee of the trust and Tom Steel became the "acting trustee."
- Attorney Flowers reports that the Steel divorce documents do not reference the Farris trust, and he is
  unable to locate any court sanctioned approval for Tom Steel to serve as successor trustee.
- Nevertheless, Tom Steel then moved into the Farris residence, an asset of the trust, and cared for Donna Kay Farris.
- Thereafter, Tom Steel became ill and eventually went into a nursing home earlier this year.
- It was at that point that family in California learned of the plight of Donna Kay Farris and Keith D'Ambrosio initiated proceedings.
- Neither Donna Kay Farris nor the Chester Farris trust is a beneficiary of Tom Steel.
- Mr. Flowers believes there might be some available actions against GeorgeAnn Steel; however, she has been uncooperative in this matter and her attorney has been disbarred.
- A copy of the trust and amendments is attached to the declaration.

The trust provides that upon Chester Farris' death, the trustee shall continue to manage the trust estate for the benefit of Donna Kay Farris, and on her death, distribute to her issue, or if none, to the Church of Saint Mary in Tulsa, OK.

The first amendment adds GeorgeAnn Steel as a co-trustee, and the second amendment nominates GeorgeAnn Steel as sole successor trustee.

<u>Examiner's Note</u>: It appears, with this updated information, that Examiner's Note #1 above should be revised as follows:

1. Need authority to distribute funds due to the Conservatee directly to a previously established trust without substituted judgment under Probate Code §2580.

Notes #2 and #3 remain per above.

Teixeira, J. Stanley (for Conservator Keith D'Ambrosio)

Status Hearing Re: Filing of the Inventory and Appraisal

Age: 59	KEIGTH D'AMBROSIO, Cousin, was	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
DOB: 4-29-55	appointed Conservator of the Person	
	and Estate with a bond amount to be determined on 7-30-14. Letters issued on	Need Inventory and Appraisal     pursuant to Probate Code §2610
	= 8-1-14.	or verified status report pursuant
		to local rule.
Aff.Sub.Wit.	At the hearing on 7-30-14, the Court set	
Verified	this status hearing for the filing of the	
Inventory	Inventory and Appraisal.	
PTC		
Not.Cred.		
Notice of		
Hrg		
Aff.Mail		
Aff.Pub.		
Sp.Ntc.		
Pers.Serv.		
Conf.		
Screen	<u> </u>	
Letters	_	
Duties/Supp	_	
Objections	_	
Video Receipt		
CI Report	=	
9202	=	
Order	-	
Aff. Posting	-	Reviewed by: skc
Status Rpt	=	Reviewed on: 12-1-147
UCCJEA		Updates:
Citation	=	Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 16B - Farris

16B

Tamaury Lamar Miller-Woodard (GUARD/P) Case No. 14CEPR00912 McCaleb, Johninieta Marie (pro per – paternal grandmother/Petitioner)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 2250)

Age: 10	TEMPORARY EXPIRES 12/09/14	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	JOHNINIETA McCALEB, paternal grandmother is Petitioner.	er, 1. Need Notice of Hearing for the 12/09/14 hearing.
Cont. from  Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified Inventory  PTC  Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Aff.Pub.  Sp.Ntc.  Pers.Serv.  Conf.	Father: GLENN MILLER-WOODWARD – personally served on 10/06/14; proof of service attached to Notice of Hearing for 10/15/14 hearing indicates that a Notice of Hearing for both dates was served on the father on 10/06/14  Mother: TENEYA WILLIAMS –Consent & Waive of Notice filed 10/06/14  Paternal grandfather: HOWARD WOODWAR Maternal grandfather: QUINCY WILSON Maternal grandmother: MIRACLE GILBERT  Siblings: AALIYAH MILLER-WOODWARD, ISAIH	a. Howard Woodward (paternal grandfather) b. Quincy Wilson (maternal grandfather) c. Miracle Gilbert (maternal grandmother) d. Any sibling 12 and over
Screen  ✓ Letters  ✓ Duties/Supp  Objections  Video Receipt  ✓ CI Report  9202  ✓ Order  Aff. Posting	MILLER-WOODWARD, IMANI MILLER-WOODWARD  Petitioner alleges that the minor has lived wi her for over 8 years. He is stable and doing well in school. His father has threatened to take him from Petitioner's home. The father was just released from jail and has not been involved in the minor's life for a long time. The minor does not want to go with his father and is fearful that his father will come and pick hup from school. The father has a criminal	ne nd im <b>Reviewed by:</b> JF
Status Rpt  ✓ UCCJEA  Citation  FTB Notice	history and is in and out of jail. Petitioner states that the mother and maternal grandparents are in favor of the guardiansh Court Investigator Dina Calvillo filed a report on 12/03/14.	File 17 – Miller-Woodard

Aguilar, Ilda (pro per Petitioner/maternal grandmother)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 1510)

Age: 1 year			THERE IS NO TEMPORARY.	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
Age. I year			No temporary was requested.	NEEDS/TROBLEMS/COMMENTS.
			ILDA AGUILAR, maternal grandmother, is petitioner.	Need proof of service of the     Notice of Hearing along with a     copy of the Petition or Consent
Со	nt. from			and Waiver of Notice on:
	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Father: GABRIEL GARZA – consents	a. Arturo Garza (paternal
✓	Verified		and waives notice.	grandfather) – if court does not dispense with notice.
	Inventory		Mother: MARICRUZ GUADALUPE	
	PTC		INIGUEZ AGUILAR – consents and	
	Not.Cred.		waives notice.	
✓	Notice of Hrg		Paternal grandfather: Arturo Garza -	
✓	Aff.Mail	W/	Declaration of Due Diligence filed on 11/21/14	
	Aff.Pub.		Paternal grandmother: Jeanette	
	Sp.Ntc.		Gaytan – personally served on 11/8/14	
✓	Pers.Serv.	W/	Paternal grandfather: Abel Iniguez – mailed notice on 11/3/14.	
✓	Conf. Screen		<b>Petitioner states</b> the child has resided	
1	Letters		in her home along with the mother.	
✓	Duties/Supp		Mother comes and goes as she pleases. Mom has issues with	
	Objections		violence.	
	Video		Court Investigator Samantha Henson's	
	Receipt		Report filed on 12/2/14.	
✓	CI Report		• • •	
	9202			
✓	Order			
	Aff. Posting			Reviewed by: KT
	Status Rpt			Reviewed on: 12/2/14
✓	UCCJEA			Updates:
	Citation			Recommendation:
	FTB Notice			File 18 - Garza

**Pro Per** 

Reyes, Maria De Jesus (Pro Per Petitioner, mother)

Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator of the Person (Prob. C. 1820, 1821, 2680-2682)

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CI Report		
9202		
Order		
Aff. Posting		
Status Rpt		
UCCJEA		
Citation	Χ	
FTB Notice		
	Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified  Inventory  Cap Dec  Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Aff.Pub.  Sp.Ntc.  Pers.Serv.  Conf. Screen  Letters  Duties/Supp  Objections  Video Receipt  CI Report  9202  Order  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCCJEA  Citation	Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified  Inventory  Cap Dec X  Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail W/O  Aff.Pub.  Sp.Ntc.  Pers.Serv. X  Conf. X Screen  Letters  Duties/Supp  Objections  Video Receipt  CI Report  9202  Order  Aff. Posting  Status Rpt  UCCJEA  Citation X

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## NO TEMPORARY REQUESTED

MARIA DE JESUS REYES, mother, is Petitioner and requests appointment as Conservator of the Person with medical consent powers.

**Need Capacity Declaration.** 

Petitioner states the proposed Conservatee was born with Down syndrome and is developmentally disabled, and the Petitioner seeks to continue to provide for her care and to meet her daily needs, as Petitioner has done since the proposed Conservatee's birth.

Court Investigator Samantha Henson to provide CI Report and Advisement of Rights.

#### **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:**

## OFF CALENDAR

Amended Petition for Appointment of Probate Conservator filed 11/20/2014 is set for hearing on 1/8/2015.

- Need Citation for Conservatorship
  pursuant to Probate Code § 1823, and
  proof of personal service of the Citation
  on the proposed Conservatee with a
  copy of the Petition for Appointment of
  Probate Conservator that includes the
  1/8/2015 hearing date pursuant to
  Probate Code § 1824.
- 2. Proof of Service by Mail of the Notice of Hearing filed 11/26/2014 does not indicate a copy of the Petition accompanied the notice as required by Probate Code § 1822(a).
- 3. Pursuant to Probate Code §§ 2352(c) and 1822(e), need proof of service by mail of 30 days' notice together with a copy of the Petition for CVRC, or waiver of such notice by CVRC to be filed with the Court.
- 4. Petition requests medical consent powers.

  Need Medical Capacity Declaration
  [form GC-335] in support of Petitioner's
  request pursuant to Probate Code §
  1890(c).
- 5. Need Confidential Conservator Screening form [form GC-314].
- 6. Need Confidential Supplemental Information form [GC-312] pursuant to Probate Code § 1821.

Reviewed by: LEG
Reviewed on: 12/2/14
Updates:
Recommendation:
File 19 - Reyes

Medina, Eloisa Portillo (Pro Per Petitioner, maternal great-grandmother) Pro Per

Pro Per Castaneda, Manuel (Pro Per Petitioner, cousin)

Petition for Appointment of Temporary Guardian of the Person (Prob. C. 2250)

Jac	den Age: 3 yrs		General Hearing set for 1/28/2015	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
Josiah Age: 3 yrs				
Robert Age: 1 yr			<b>ELOISA PORTILLO MEDINA</b> , maternal great-grandmother, and <b>MANUEL CASTANEDA</b> ,	Need Notice of Hearing and proof of five (5) court days' notice by personal service of
Со	nt. from		cousin, are Petitioners.	the Notice of Hearing with a
<u></u>	Aff.Sub.Wit.		Father of Jaden and Josiah: <b>UNKNOWN</b>	copy of the Petition for Appointment of Temporary
Ť	Inventory		Father of Robert: ROBERT RANDALL RAMOS	Guardian, or Consent to Appointment of Guardian and
	PTC Not Cred		Mother: CRYSTAL OCHOA	Waiver of Notice, or a Declaration of Due Diligence
	Notice of Hrg	X	Paternal grandfather of Robert: Unknown Paternal grandmother of Robert: Amelia	for: • Crystal Ochoa, mother;
	Aff.Mail		Lopez	<ul> <li>Robert Randall Ramos, father of Robert;</li> </ul>
	Aff.Pub.			<ul><li>Father of Jaden and Josiah,</li></ul>
	Sp.Ntc.		Paternal grandparents of Jaden and Josiah: Unknown	if Court does not excuse
	Pers.Serv.	Χ	Josian, Unknown	notice as Petitioners
✓	Conf. Screen		Maternal grandfather: Robert Ochoa Maternal grandmother: Emma Ochoa	request.
<b>√</b>	Letters			
✓	Duties/Supp		<b>Petitioners state</b> they need to obtain temporary guardianship of the children for	
	Objections		medical purposes because without either	
	Video		parent it will be difficult for the children to be seen by a doctor. Petitioners state the	
-	Receipt CI Report		mother abandoned the children and left	
	9202		them with the Petitioners, and she is	
1	Order		currently abusing drugs instead of complying with her classes and with the	
	Aff. Posting		conditions the County placed on her so	Reviewed by: LEG
	Status Rpt		she could maintain custody of her children.	Reviewed on: 12/2/14
✓	UCCJEA		Petitioners request to be excused from	Updates:
	Citation		giving notice to the father of Jaden and	Recommendation:
	FTB Notice		Josiah as they have never met him and would not know where to start looking for him.	File 20 – Ochoa & Ramos

SIMONIAN, JEFFREY D. (for Christina Pericas and Martin Nonini/Petitioners)

Petition for Probate of Will and for Letters Testamentary; Authorization to Administer Under IAEA (Prob. C. 8002, 10450)

DOD: 09/05/13	CHRISTINA PERICAS and MARTIN	NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:
	NONINI, daughter and son, are	
	Petitioners and request appointment as	CONTINUED FROM 12/02/14
	Co-Administrators with Will Annexed	
Cont. from 120214	without bond.	It does not appear that the original will has been
Aff.Sub.Wit. s/p	FULLAFA OK	deposited with the Court.
✓ Verified	Full IAEA – OK	Need Original Will pursuant
Inventory	All heirs waive bond	to Probate Code § 8200.
PTC		
Not.Cred.	Will dated 09/23/82	Note: If the petition is granted
✓ Notice of		status hearings will be set as
Hrg	Residence: Fresno	follows:
✓ Aff.Mail w/	Publication: The Business Journal	• Tuesday, 05/05/15 at
✓ Aff.Pub.		<b>9:00a.m. in Dept. 303</b> for
Sp.Ntc.	Estimated Value of the Estate:	the filing of the inventory
Pers.Serv.	Real property - \$295,000.00	and appraisal <u>and</u> • Tuesday, 02/02/16 at
Conf.		9:00a.m. in Dept. 303 for
Screen	Probate Referee: <b>STEVEN DIEBERT</b>	the filing of the first
✓ Letters		account and final
✓ Duties/Supp		distribution.
Objections		Pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 if the
Video		required documents are filed 10
Receipt		days prior to the hearings on the
CI Report		matter, the status hearing will come off calendar and no
9202		appearance will be required.
✓ Order		- 1-1
Aff. Posting		Reviewed by: JF
Status Rpt		<b>Reviewed on:</b> 12/03/14
UCCJEA		Updates:
Citation		Recommendation:
FTB Notice		File 21 – Nonini